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AN ACT

RELATING TO COUNTIES; REVISING THE POPULATION ACCOUNTING BASIS FOR CLASSIFYING COUNTIES; CHANGING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF SALARY CLASSIFICATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 4-44-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957, Chapter 196, Section 1) is amended to read:

"4-44-1. CLASSIFICATION FOR SALARY PURPOSES.--

A. For the purpose of fixing salaries of county officers, the several counties of the state, except "H" class counties, are hereby classified as follows:

(1) those having a final, full assessed valuation of over seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000) and having a population of one hundred thousand persons or more as determined by the most current annual population data or estimate available from the United States census bureau, as class "A" counties;

(2) those having a final, full assessed valuation in excess of seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000) with a population less than one hundred thousand persons as determined by the most current annual population data or estimate available from the United States census bureau, as class "B" counties;

(3) those having a final, full assessed

1 valuation in excess of forty-five million dollars  
2 (\$45,000,000) with a population less than one hundred  
3 thousand persons as determined by the most current annual  
4 population data or estimate available from the United States  
5 census bureau, as class "C" counties;

6 (4) those having a final, full assessed  
7 valuation of over fourteen million dollars (\$14,000,000), as  
8 counties of the first class;

9 (5) those having a final, full assessed  
10 valuation of eight million two hundred fifty thousand dollars  
11 (\$8,250,000) and under fourteen million dollars \$14,000,000),  
12 as counties of the second class;

13 (6) those having a final, full assessed  
14 valuation of six million five hundred thousand dollars  
15 (\$6,500,000) and under eight million two hundred fifty  
16 thousand dollars (\$8,250,000), as counties of the third  
17 class;

18 (7) those having a final, full assessed  
19 valuation of four million seven hundred fifty thousand  
20 dollars (\$4,750,000) and under six million five hundred  
21 thousand dollars (\$6,500,000), as counties of the fourth  
22 class; and

23 (8) those having a final, full assessed  
24 valuation of less than four million seven hundred fifty  
25 thousand dollars (\$4,750,000), as counties of the fifth

1 class.

2 B. The assessed valuation for each year shall be  
3 the full valuation as finally fixed for that year."

4 Section 2. Section 4-44-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1915,  
5 Chapter 12, Section 19, as amended) is amended to read:

6 "4-44-2. BIENNIAL DETERMINATION OF CLASSIFICATION.--  
7 From and after January 1, 1962, the classification of  
8 counties shall be fixed and governed by the assessed  
9 valuation as finally fixed for the preceding year. Provided,  
10 one hundred twenty days after January 1, 1962 and one hundred  
11 twenty days from January 1 of each second year thereafter,  
12 the classification shall be determined by the secretary of  
13 finance and administration from the assessed valuation of  
14 each county as finally fixed for the preceding year, and the  
15 secretary of finance and administration upon making the  
16 determination shall notify the board of county commissioners  
17 of each county of the class within which each of the counties  
18 of this state falls according to the classification, and the  
19 classification as so fixed and determined by the secretary of  
20 finance and administration shall govern the salaries of the  
21 county officers for two years beginning July 1 of the year  
22 the classification is determined."

23 Section 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public  
24 peace, health and safety that this act take effect  
25 immediately.

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